Department of the Navy

Mentor-Protégé
Program











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Program Overview

- The Department of Defense (DoD) Pilot Mentor-Protégé Program was established under Section 831 of Public Law 101-510, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991 (10 U.S.C. 2302 note). The program has been extended through 2010 for new agreements.
- Effective October 1, 2003 the Mentor-Protégé Program was transitioned from the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization (SADBU) level to the Military Services and Other Defense Agencies delegating them full authority to approve and fund Mentor-Protégé agreements. http://www.acq.osd.mil/osbp/mentor_protege/

Program Overview

Types of agreements:

Credit

A credit agreement provides the mentor credit against applicable subcontracting goals established under contracts with DoD and other Federal agencies. For more information, contact DCMA at www.dcma.mil.

Reimbursable

A reimbursable agreement provides monetary reimbursement only for the cost of developmental assistance incurred by the mentor firm provided to a protégé firm in accordance with the approved agreement.

Mentors

- Prior to participation, mentor firms must complete and submit a mentor application to the Office of the Secretary of the Navy (OSN), SADBU Director, for approval as a mentor firm under the program (DFARS Appendix I-105).
- The Application may be submitted concurrently with the proposed Mentor-Protégé agreement.
- A mentor may have several Mentor-Protégé relationships; Those several relationships may be spread across the many DoD Services and Agencies participating in the program; However, a protégé may have only one mentor/endorsed by one service or agency at any given time.
- A separate Mentor-Protégé agreement must be submitted for each Mentor-Protégé relationship.

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Mentors

- Mentor considerations when selecting a protégé:
 - > Protégé's geographic location to the mentor;
 - Capabilities of the protégé and how they interface with the mentor;
 - Commitment to the relationship;
 - Stability of the protégé's management and financial status;
 - > Subcontracting expectations;

Benefits to Mentors

The incentives for large businesses to participate in this program are:

- Assist small businesses as defined in the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations (DFARS) 219.7102(b) in enhancing their capabilities and to increase participation of such firms in Government and commercial contracts.
- Mentors receive compensation for costs associated with Mentor-Protégé agreements in the form of direct reimbursement.

Benefits to Mentors

- Funded by DoD to nurture and develop long-term relationships with qualified small business vendors.
- Teaming opportunities with the Protégé to win new contracts and/or subcontracts

Protégés

- Must be eligible to participate as a protégé firm as defined in DFARS 219.7102 and DFARS Appendix I-102(b).
 - Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB)
 - Indian Tribe
 - Native Hawaiian
 - Native Alaskan
 - Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB)

Protégés

- Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB)
- HubZone
- Entity employing at least 20% severely disabled

Benefits to Protégés

The incentives for small businesses to participate in this program are to:

- Open doors
- Use as a marketing tool
- Pursue business with other prime contractors
- Receive assistance from a major prime contractor
- Develop long-standing business relationship

Benefits to Protégés

- May receive non-competitive subcontracts under costtype contracts, see FAR 52.244-5, Competition in Subcontracting and DFARS Appendix I-106(d)(2).
- Teaming opportunities with the mentor to win new contracts and/or subcontracts.

- Prior to initiating the development of a Mentor-Protégé agreement, the Mentor and Protégé shall complete a needs assessment (as defined in DFARS, Appendix I-106(b)) to:
 - Identify the developmental needs of the Protégé
 - Come to a mutual agreement between the Mentor and Protégé regarding the developmental assistance to be provided to the Protégé to address those needs
 - Enhance the Protégé's ability to perform successfully under prime contracts and/or subcontracts

- Mentor-Protégé agreements are formalized contractually by adding a separately priced line item to an existing Navy contract. Guidance for selection of appropriate contractual vehicle:
 - Mentor-Protégé agreements must be added as a line item to an existing contractual instrument.
 - It is the Mentor's responsibility to obtain permission from the Program Manager of the contractual vehicle to add the agreement to the contract.
 - A new contract instrument cannot be issued for the sole purpose of establishing a Mentor-Protégé agreement.

- New Proposals should be structured as follows:
 - > base year
 - > priced option for out years
 - agreement shall not exceed three (3) years

	Proposal Amounts	Not-To-Exceed Amounts
Non-Manufacturing Per Year	\$175K - \$250K	\$500K
Non-Manufacturing Per Agreement	\$750K	\$1.5M
Manufacturing Per Year	\$750K	\$950K
Manufacturing Per Agreement	\$2.25M	\$2.85M

- All Navy Mentor-Protégé agreements must contain the following four elements:
 - 1) The Mentor-Protégé agreement as defined in DFARS Appendix I-107. To access the agreement template, go to http://www.acq.osd.mil/sadbu/mentor_protege/participate/aaat.htm
 - 2) A separate statement outlining the *major* benefits of this agreement to the DoN and/or DoD.

- 3) A technical proposal that details the development program described in the Mentor-Protégé agreement DFARS Appendix I-107(f).
- 4) A detailed cost proposal of the technical proposal presented in 12-month increments as cited in DFARS Appendix I-108(a)(4).

Agreement Content

- 1) DFARS Appendix I-107: All twenty-six (26) elements of Section I-107 MUST be addressed separately.
- A separate statement citing the benefits of this agreement and or the Return On Investment of this agreement to the Navy and/or DoD must be submitted on a separate page, which is clearly identified.

Technical Proposal Content

- The technical proposal should be constructed so it easily tracks to the cost proposal;
- The hours associated with each task described in the technical proposal should be visible in the cost proposal;
- A very strong technical proposal is imperative;

Technical Proposal Content

- The minimum hours associated with technology transfer should be approximately 70% of the proposed hours and the remaining 30% should be related to business development tasks.
- Emphasis on technology transfer is very important.
- The technical proposal must also include a milestone chart (DFARS Appendix I-107(g)) that tracks the proposed technical assistance to be provided.

Cost Proposal Content

- 4) Cost Proposals for reimbursement must comply with the following:
 - Do Not Include Any Type of Fee or Profit
 - As indicated in the March 2002 GAO Interim Report on the Mentor-Protégé Program (GAO/NSLAD 92-135, (p. 7)), prime contractors cannot earn a profit on developmental assistance provided to protégés.
 - Labor/Salary reimbursement must be for employees on the mentor's payroll only. Consultant costs are unallowable.

Cost Proposal Content

- Incidental costs (other direct costs) <u>cannot</u> exceed 10% of the total proposal cost.
 - Incidental costs include all costs other than direct labor, overhead, and General and Administrative (G&A) costs associated with direct labor.
 - Examples of incidental costs include travel, training, equipment and software, etc.
 - The <u>only</u> protégé expenses to be reimbursed by the Government are for travel expenses relating to training only, <u>not</u> marketing.

Cost Proposal Content

Tasks to be completed by a Historically Black Colleges or Universities or Minority Institutions (HBCUs/MIs), a Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), or a Small Business Development Center (SBDC) are allowable and are <u>not</u> included in incidental costs.

The use of these resources for training is encouraged.

- The Navy M-P Program Manager will accept Mentor-Protégé agreements submitted during the following four cycles:
 - > August 30th
 - > November 30th
 - > February 28th
 - > May 31st

- All proposals shall be submitted to and endorsed by a Navy Head Contracting Agency (HCA). The Navy HCA shall review all proposed agreements for accuracy and completion, and will then forward them to the DoN Mentor-Protégé Program Manager for final review by an evaluation board.
- Your firm will be notified by DoN SADBU letter as to approval or rejection of your submitted proposal.
- It is the Navy Program Manager's intention to endorse the highest rated agreements from each submission cycle.

- All agreements that are not endorsed and forwarded to DoN SADBU Director for approval and funding will be returned to the mentor with a copy of the cover letter sent to the cognizant Navy HCA Small Business Office.
- If the initial proposal is returned to the mentor, it may be resubmitted a maximum of two more times. (A total of three (3) submissions).

- Proposed agreements will be evaluated based on the following criteria (listed in descending order of importance):
 - Merit of the technology transfer to the protégé firm;
 - Perceived benefit/value of the agreement to Navy and/or DoD;
 - Percentage of hours associated with technology transfer;

- > Subcontracting opportunities available to the protégé;
- > Utilization of HBCUs/Mis, PTACs, or SBDCs;
- > Proposed cost;

Program Requirements

- Monthly expenditure reports are required to be submitted to the cognizant Small Business Office on the 20th of each month. Inaccurate and late reports will have a negative impact on the decision for approval of your priced option.
- Extra emphasis is placed on the semi-annual reports that are required under this program. These reports are reviewed and are a major part of the decision-making process to determine if incremental funding will be approved. Inaccurate and late reports will have a negative impact on the decision for approval of your priced option.

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